



महाराष्ट्र शासन राजपत्र

असाधारण भाग आठ

वर्ष २, अंक १५]

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असाधारण क्रमांक २१

प्राधिकृत प्रकाशन

महाराष्ट्र विधानमंडळाचे अधिनियम व राज्यपालांनी प्रख्यापित केलेले अध्यादेश व केलेले विनियम आणि
विधि व न्याय विभागाकडून आलेली विधेयके (इंग्रजी अनुवाद).

In pursuance of clause (3) of article 348 of the Constitution of India, the following translation in English of the Maharashtra Water Conservation Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (L. A. Bill No. VIII of 2016), introduced in the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly on the 15th March 2016, is hereby published under the authority of the Governor.

By order and in the name of the Governor of Maharashtra,

P. H. MALI,
Secretary (Legislation) to Government,
Law and Judiciary Department.

L. A. BILL No. VIII OF 2016.

A BILL

*further to amend the Maharashtra Water Conservation
Corporation Act, 2000.*

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Maharashtra Water Conservation Corporation Act, 2000, for the purposes hereinafter appearing; III of 2001. it is hereby enacted in the Sixty-seventh Year of the Republic of India as follows :—

1. This Act may be called the Maharashtra Water Conservation Corporation (Amendment) Act, 2016. Short title.

2. In section 25 of the Maharashtra Water Conservation Corporation Act, 2000, in sub-section (1),— Amendment of section 25 of Mah. III of 2001.

(a) for the words, letters and figures “sum of Rs.2000 crore” the words, letters and figures “sum of Rs. 10,000 crore” shall be substituted;

(b) for the words “period of five years” the words “period of twenty-five years” shall be substituted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Maharashtra Water Conservation Corporation Act, 2000 (Mah. III of 2001) provides special provisions for promotion, operation and rapid development and regulation of watersheds and water conservation works including social forestry and irrigation projects in the State of Maharashtra and for the purpose established “the Maharashtra Water Conservation Corporation”.

2. Sub-section (1) of section 25 of the said Act, provides that the State Government shall, by appropriation duly made in this behalf, from time to time, provide an aggregate sum of Rs. 2000 crore to the Corporation Funds as its share capital required by the Corporation for the performance of the functions of the Corporation under the said Act, and such contribution shall be paid in suitable instalments spread over a period of five years from the date of establishment of the Corporation. It has also provided that the State Government shall, by appropriation duly made in this behalf, initially contribute and pay a sum of Rs.500 crore to the Corporation Fund.

Till 2014-15 (March 2015), a sum of Rs. 1603.08 crore has been received by the Corporation from the Government. The Corporation has undertaken almost 4781 schemes including the 290 schemes which have been transferred to the Corporation by the State Government. The cost of the schemes to which the Corporation has accorded administrative approval is Rs. 4202 crore for 4491 schemes. Till now, works of 1267 schemes have been completed and the irrigation potential created is about 58821 hectares. Out of 3514 schemes, the work of 1184 schemes amounting Rs. 908.46 crore are in progress and the 2330 schemes amounting Rs. 1906.41 crore have been stayed. Out of the stayed 2330 schemes, except the schemes falls under *Jalyukta Shivar Abhiyan* i.e. 101 schemes costing Rs. 59.00 crore, the remaining 2229 schemes costing Rs. 1823.33 crore are cancelled by the Corporation. Therefore, at present, the Corporation have 1285 on going schemes with balance cost of Rs. 967.46 crore.

3. Marathwada region is facing draught since last three years, due to which groundwater level is being decreased day by day and the region is facing water scarcity. The water supply for the purpose of drinking as well as animals is being made through tankers. The Government is spending huge funds on this account, Vidarbha and Konkan regions fall under back-log area. Though these regions have heavy rain in rainy season, due to non-availability of water bodies schemes, the rain water run off. Therefore, water scarcity is being faced in the summer season. The Government has to provide water through tankers which involves heavy expenditure. To cope up with this situation, water conservation works are very essential to increase the groundwater level as well as to create water potentiality for people, animals and irrigation potential to agriculture.

4. The Government has sanctioned a budget of Rs.419.66 crore during the year 2014-15 to the Corporation. Considering the present liability of the Corporation on account of the works in progress at present Rs.967.46 crore and considering the period of near about 4 years required for completion of the works, the funds of Rs.3100 crore will be required. Similarly, new works are also absolutely essential to be taken in hand to reduce the severity of the water scarcity and to prevent suicides by the cultivators. For this purpose additional fund of Rs. 6900 crore will be required.

5. The Corporation has planned to create irrigation potential upto 6.17 lakhs hectares, out of which 1.61 lakh hectares will be brought under irrigation by completing the works, which is in progress at present. However, near about 4.56 lakh hectares land is yet to be brought under irrigation during the upcoming 10 years. New works are therefore, necessary to be taken up in the State to achieve this target.

6. Considering the above facts and circumstances, the Government considered it expedient to increase the sum provided by the State Government to the said Corporation to the Corporation Fund as its share of capital required by the Corporation for the performance of its functions from rupees two thousand crore to rupees ten thousand crore, and also to spread over the instalments of such contribution in a period of twenty-five years instead of five years by amending the provisions of sub-section (1) of section 25 of the said Act, suitably.

7. The Bill seeks to achieve the above objectives.

Mumbai,
Dated the 10th March 2016.

PANKAJA MUNDE,
Minister for Water Conservation.

FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

The Bill provides for the increase of the sum of Corporation Fund as the Government's share of capital required by the Corporation for the performance of the functions of the Corporation under the Maharashtra Water Conservation Corporation Act, 2000. The State Government by appropriation duly made, from time to time, provide an aggregate sum of Rs. 10,000 crore to the Corporation Fund.

The annual recurring expenditure towards the contribution of State Government is estimated Rs. 840 crores, which the amount will be paid by the State Government from the Consolidated Fund of the State on the enactment of the Bill as an Act of the State Legislature.

GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION UNDER ARTICLE 207 OF
THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

(Copy of Government of Maharashtra Order, Law and Judiciary Department)

In exercise of the power conferred upon him by clause (3) of Article 207 of the Constitution of India, the Governor of Maharashtra is pleased to recommend to the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly, the consideration of the Maharashtra Water Conservation Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 2016.